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			p. 1
Practitioner's Docket No. 44RUP1090CB PATENT IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE			
To: Commissioner of Patents, Thomas L. Turner, Jeffrey L. Application No. 08/740,654 Filed 09/30/1997 Group No. 1741 Examiner, Leslie For SEMICONDUCTOR PLATING SUPPORT HAVING WORKFACE-FINISHING EXTRUDER WITH PRE-COOLING CONTACT FACE <i>Attalaire Corporation Inc</i> Washington, D.C. 20231			
STATUS INQUIRY			
1. More than twelve months have passed since the filing of a response on January 22, 2001. No further communication has been received from the Patent and Trademark Office.			
2. Kindly advise the unchanged status of the present claim of this application by checking the appropriate box on the right side. A stamped return-address envelope is provided.			
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D Mailed with the United States Postal Service via overnight delivery or first class mail in an envelope addressed to the following: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231			
Robert B. Taft <i>(Signature of practitioner confirming)</i>			
<small>(Stamp signature - page 1 of 1)</small>			

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Attomey, Docket No. 291958192US00

Express Mail Label EL393527356US**PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Thomas L. Ritzdorf *et al.*
APPLICATION NO.: 08/940,686
FILED: September 30, 1997
FOR: SEMICONDUCTOR PLATING SYSTEM WORKPIECE
 SUPPORT HAVING WORKPIECE-ENGAGING
 ELECTRODE WITH PRECONDITIONED CONTACT
 FACE

EXAMINER: W. Leader
ART UNIT: 1741
CONF. NO.: N/A
CLIENT REF. NO.: P97-0011

Status Inquiry

Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants request an update on the status of the present application because it has been over twenty-one months since applicants filed a response on January 22, 2001.

1. **Background**

In a teleconference on October 2, 2002, Examiner William Leader told Semitool, Inc. that the US Patent Office database did not show that the Patent Office had received a response to the Office Action dated October 3, 2000. Examiner Leader also informed Semitool that the application is currently at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences. Applicants believe that the Patent Office database is incorrect because a response to the October 3, 2000, Office Action was received by the Patent Office on January 25, 2001. Additionally, a Status Inquiry was filed on March 11, 2002, and a Revocation and Substitute Power of Attorney was filed on May 10, 2002. Applicants hereby request that the status of the application be corrected to accurately reflect the filings by the applicants.

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Attn., Docket No. 291958192US00

2. Statement of Facts Supporting The Timely Filing of a Response

On January 22, 2001, Mr. Robert B. Polit filed a response entitled RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 3, 2000 (Exhibit A). Mr. Polit also filed a petition for a one-month extension of time and a fee transmittal sheet authorizing the Patent Office to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1606 in the amount of \$110.00 for the extention of time fee. Mr. Polit subsequently received a return postcard stamped by the OIPE dated January 25, 2001 (Exhibit B). Additionally, Deposit Account No. 50-1606 was debited \$110.00 on January 29, 2001, for fee code 115 regarding U.S. Application No. 08/940,686 (Exhibit C).

The evidence unambiguously establishes that a response to the Office Action dated October 3, 2000, was received by the Patent Office on January 25, 2001. Applicants accordingly request that the response dated January 22, 2001, be entered in the application.

3. Additional Papers Filed by Applicants

In addition to the response dated January 22, 2001, a Status Inquiry was filed via facsimile on March 11, 2002 (Exhibit D), and a Revocation and Substitute Power of

Attorney; Docket No. 291958192US00

Attorney was filed on May 10, 2002 (Exhibit E). Applicants also request that these documents be entered in the file.

Respectfully submitted,
Perkins Coie LLP

Date: 10/3/02

P.T.P.
Paul T. Parker
Registration No. 38,264

Enclosures:

- Exhibit A - Response dated January 22, 2001
- Exhibit B - Return postcard with OIPE stamp
- Exhibit C - Copy of Deposit Account Statement (Account No. 50-1606)
- Exhibit D - Status Inquiry Dated March 11, 2002
- Exhibit E - Revocation and Substitute Power of Attorney dated May 10, 2002

Correspondence Address:

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(206) 583-8888

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SENT: Oct 3, 2002



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Status Inquiry; in re: Ritzdorf et al., App. No. 08/940,686; Filed: 09/30/97; for SEMICONDUCTOR PLATING SYSTEM
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Perkins Coie LLP